NOTHING IMPORTANT
CARRY ON

Really, I was hoping for more dirt on Nanami. But I guess this will have to do.

Any suggestions on the village or region names are more than welcome. シウス村 - "shiusu" village, and アルラント "aruranto"/Alrant. I don't know if they're straightforward, or something weird like ウィンウッド - "uinuddo"/Winwood.

Enjoy.

MY NAME IS KUROU WINWOOD.
I'M SORT OF A HOUND.
PLEASED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE
HUH? HOUND?
HOUND AGAIN?
What gives...
LIAR.
HMM
YOU'RE A HOUND?

YOUR SCENT HAS JUST A SLIVER OF HOUND.
YOU'RE BASICALLY HUMAN.
Uh,
WELL, THAT'S RIGHT.
INDEED, I HAVE BARELY ANY HOUND BLOOD.
IT'S ALMOST COM-PLETELY DILUTED.
I HAVE NOT A BIT OF HOUND ABILITY
THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T SAY I AM ONE.
I ONLY SAID "SORT OF".
I'M VERY MUCH HUMAN.
That's probably how I smell.
?
?

第17話 ハウンド〈2〉
CHAPTER 17 HOUND (2)

おー
SO KURO IS A HOUND~
JUST LIKE US~!
LET'S BE FRIENDS~
FRIENDS?
YES, I'D LIKE THAT.

あミ
OH, WHAT ABOUT LUNCH?
HAS KURO EATEN YET~?
AH, I HAVE NOT.
EXCUSE ME FOR THE TROUBLE
I'M REALLY PRESSED FOR TIME TODAY
しゅん
OKAY...
Awww
HEY HEY, LET'S ALL EAT LUNCH TOGETHER~
WE'VE GOT ENOUGH FOOD, RIGHT?
INCIDENTALLY
THAT'S PARTLY WHY I CAME HERE.
I DID
SOMETHING FOR HER

WELL, SORT OF...
KURO AND TORI ARE FRIENDS?
Huh?
FOR TORI?
SOME-THING ELSE?
Hmm?
OH, I GET IT!
YOU'RE REAL CLOSE FRIENDS~!
WELL, YOU COULD SAY THAT.
.....
INDEED.
WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER A LONG TIME.

I'M REALLY RUNNING OUT OF TIME
PLEASE EXCUSE ME.
EXCUSE ME
.....
WHAT'S WITH THAT WEIRD FEELING...
WEIRD ...?
HE SEEMS LIKE A REALLY NICE PERSON.

YOU THINK EVERYONE'S A GOOD PERSON!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
.....
KAZUMA~!
WAAHHH!?
W-W-WHAT THE HELL?
THERE WAS TOO MUCH SPACE BETWEEN YOU AND I~
WHAT KIND OF REASON IS THAT?
So much fun~
WELL?
YOU GOT ANY MORE QUESTIONS?
YEAH, I DO.
.....
YOU'RE A HOUND? I STILL HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THAT IS.

KOTORI SAID SHE'D TELL ME WHEN SHE TRUSTED ME.
HAH?
WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING WHAT WE ARE? ARE YOU SERIOUSLY THAT GOOD-NATURED?
THAT'S NOT IT! SHE THREATENED TO KILL ME IF I DIDN'T COOPERATE!
WHAT.
WAIT A SEC.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT A HOUND IS...
AND YET YOU'RE WORKING WITH US?
WELL, THAT...
は?
"THREATENED"..?
SHE SAID SOMETHING LIKE "I WILL KILL YOU IF YOU SAY NO."
What the hell...
USING A THREAT...
WHAT'S THAT GIRL THINKING?

FORCING SOMEONE TO COOPERATE IS PRETTY STRANGE TO BEGIN WITH.
BUT WHY THIS MUCH?
!!

IF YOU'RE GOING TO WORK WITH US
YOU NEED TO KNOW.
YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT HOUNDS...
WANT ME TO TEACH YOU?
WHAT?
HEY KAZUMA.
I'LL TELL YOU WHAT A HOUND IS.
I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING KOTORI WAS SUPPOSED TO~
SHE REALLY SHOULD HAVE.
ALL THE STUFF THAT HAS TO DO WITH YOU.

NANAMI HYRAL KAZUMA NAHATO. HERE'S WHAT I FOUND ABOUT THEM.
YESTERDAY, I RAN THE BACKGROUND CHECK
HOW QUICKLY YOU FINISHED IS QUITE PECULIAR.
A TASK FROM A BOARD MEMBER REQUIRES URGENCY.
ALSO, I AM CURRENTLY 23 DAYS AHEAD OF MY CLASSWORK
I CARELESSLY MENTIONED HOUNDS IN FRONT OF KAZUMA.
ARE YOU ANGRY?
SO.
.....

I DID NOT HAVE THE MEANS TO LOCATE YOU. IT IS INCONSEQUENTIAL.
SO LONG AS YOU DO NOT BECOME AN OBSTACLE TO ME, IT IS FINE.
IT HAS BEEN MENTIONED BEFORE.
AH
NANAMI'S INVESTIGATION RESULTS.
THIS.
WHAT IS IT?
...IS THAT SO.
EXCUSE ME.
MORE IMPORTANTLY...

NANAMI HYRAL
UNDOUBTEDLY FROM A HOUND BLOODLINE.
HOW-EVER.
SHE IS ALREADY
VERY DEAD.

THE DEAD NANAMI HYRAL HAD ONE CHILD
まあ
I DO NOT KNOW OF A WAY TO RAISE THE DEAD.
FURTHER-MORE, I RESEARCHED IN FULL DETAIL.

.....
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

NANAMI POSSESSES A "FANG"
HER COMBAT POWER IS MOST CERTAINLY THAT OF A HOUND
PERHAPS, NANAMI...
IS THE CHILD OF NANAMI HYRAL.
I THINK SHE TOOK HER MOTHER'S NAME
IS THAT BETTER?
WHY...
WE DON'T KNOW.
..IT'S NOT RIGHT HERE, IS IT?
HER REASON IS PROBABLY..

I STILL DON'T QUITE BELIEVE IT.
YES, IT'S PRETTY SHOCKING
I WAS SURPRISED AT FIRST, TOO
THE WORLD IS FULL OF ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE, I SUPPOSE
SUCH THINGS DO NOT MATTER.
WHETHER OR NOT THAT IS NANAMI.
THE POINT IS TO BE USEFUL; THIS CONVERSATION IS NOT USEFUL.

ALL THAT MATTERS IS THEIR UTILITY VALUE
...WELL.
NEXT, THE ADDITION OF KAZUMA'S INVESTIGATION
...EXCUSE ME.
JUST ANOTHER TRIVIAL THOUGHT.
ALL HOUNDS ARE THE SAME, EXCEPTING MS. SAKUYA.
TO YOU...
.....
INDEED
EVEN TEIRU...

THE THING ABOUT IT IS..
THERE WAS VERY LITTLE TO BE FOUND ABOUT KAZUMA'S PAST
BUT, I DID FIND A FEW INTERESTING THINGS.
HE'S FROM SHIUSU VILLAGE
A SMALL MOUNTAIN VILLAGE IN THE ALGANT REGION.
WHEN HE WAS 7, IT WAS ATTACKED BY DEMONS
IT WAS DESTROYED IN ONE NIGHT.
KAZUMA WAS THE SOLE SURVIVOR.

LET ALONE LIKE HE DID.
WITH SUCH A WEAK VILLAGE'S BARRIER, IT'S REALLY LUCKY FOR ANYONE TO SURVIVE.
.....
MORE THAN THAT, HE DIDN'T HAVE A SINGLE INJURY.
HE WAS FOUND, WITHOUT ANY KIND OF PROTECTION, IN THE MIDDLE OF A LARGE PILE OF DEAD DEMONS
AFTER THE VILLAGE WAS DE-STROYED
THERE WAS NOTHING MORE ABOUT IT.
I DON'T KNOW
HOW THE HELL DID HE ..
.....

EXCEPT
WE ALSO KNOW THAT AT THAT TIME, KAZUMA...
ALONG WITH ALL OF HIS OTHER MEMORIES.
HE EXPERIENCED EXTREME SHOCK FROM THE EVENT AND NATURALLY, WAS TRAUMATIZED.
APPARENTLY, HE LOST HIS MEMORY OF THE EVENT
AMNESIA...
IT APPEARS THAT HE HAS YET TO REGAIN HIS MEMORY
FOR SOME REASON, ALL THE DEMONS DIED HE SURVIVED WITHOUT HELP OR PROTECTION NOBODY KNOWS WHY
.....
AND SO, AFTER THAT

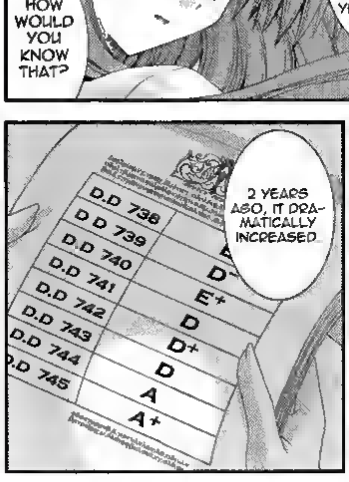
NORMALLY, IT WOULD BE VERY UNUSUAL FOR THERE TO BE ANY SURVIVORS ON TOP OF THAT..
THE HAIR AND EYES.
UPON SEEING HIS SITUATION,
HE WAS TAKEN IN BY AN ORPHANAGE.
THE DESTRUCTION OF THE VILLAGE CREATED A LOT OF RUMORS ABOUT HIM.
HIS EARLY LIFE WAS FRAUGHT WITH HATRED.
HE DIDN'T MAKE ANY FRIENDS OR EVEN ACQUAINTANCES.
HE TRIED TO NOT MAKE CONNECTIONS WITH PEOPLE, TO AVOID THE INEVITABLE HOSTILITY.
HE LEFT THE ORPHANAGE.
AFTER THAT, HE MANAGED TO AVOID PUBLIC ATTENTION BY CONSTANTLY MOVING.
WHEN HE WAS 10, HE REGISTERED AT THE HUNTER CENTER.
AFTER A YEAR...

SO...
WHAT ABOUT HIS HANDGUN?
DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING?
..NO.

.....

BY WHAT MEANS HE OBTAINED THAT GUN IS COMPLETELY UNKNOWN
HOWEVER, HE MOST LIKELY GOT IT ABOUT 2 YEARS AGO
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW THAT?

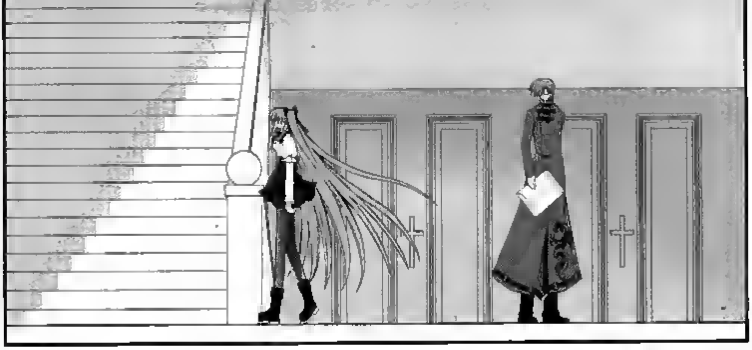
I CHECKED VARIOUS UNDERGROUND BLACK MARKET AUCTIONS FOR RUMORS
ABSOLUTELY NOTHING ALONG THE LINES OF "A GUN THAT ALWAYS KILLS THE TARGET"


2 YEARS AGO, IT DRAMATICALLY INCREASED
D.D 738
D.D 739
D.D 740
D.D 741
D.D 742
D.D 743
D.D 744
D.D 745
D+
E+
D
D+
D
A
A+

LOOK AT HIS HUNTER RANKING

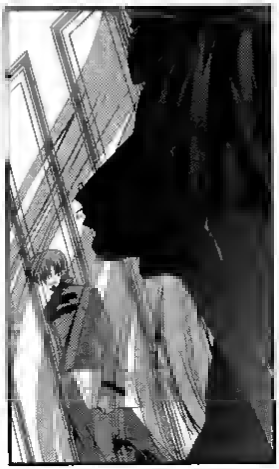
I THINK SOMEONE GAVE THE GUN TO HIM 2 YEARS AGO.
THAT WOULD SUFFICIENTLY EXPLAIN THE RISE IN RANK
IT'S RATHER DIFFICULT TO RISE A SINGLE HUNTER RANK
DON'T YOU THINK THAT SUCH AN INCREASE WOULD BE UNNATURAL?
CERTAINLY
IT WOULD SEEM THAT THIS REQUIRES MUCH MORE CONSIDER-ATION
.....

RETURN.
LEAVE IT IN THE BOARD CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE.
I UNDERSTAND THE MAIN POINT.
CONTINUE THE RESEARCH REGARDING KAZUMA, AND HIS HANDGUN.
YES.
I WILL INFORM YOU IF I FIND ANYTHING OF NOTE.
UNDERSTOOD.



"A GUN THAT ALWAYS KILLS THE TARGET"
.....

SUCH A WEAPON
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT?



DO YOU WISH TO OBTAIN SUCH A THING?
BY ANY MEANS?
NO MATTER HOW DETESTABLE THE METHOD?
TRULY
A TERRIFYING GIRL

Kotori does not care about your opinion

Credits

RAW
Internet

Programs
winRAR
Adobe Photoshop CS5

Everything else
me (visitor559683)

This chapter brought to you by
Stratovarius ~ Episode (album)
Kazukid (pg21), because he's adorable.
Isn't he? I want one.
Jigoku Shounen, just 'cause.